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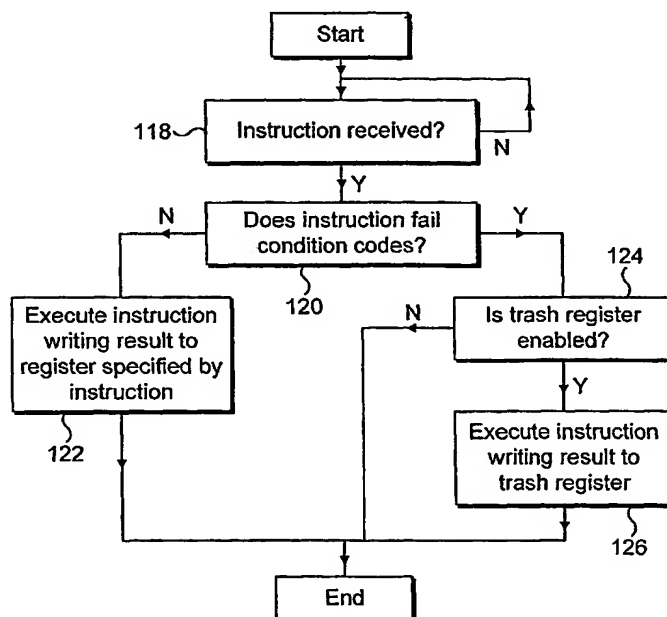
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(54) Title: **PROCESSING ACTIVITY MASKING IN A DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM**



(57) Abstract: Within a data processing systems supporting conditional write processing operations, a trash register is provided such that when non-write conditions are encountered a register write is made to the trash register rather than the data register specified by the conditional write operation. Thus the power signature associated with whether or not a register write does or does not occur is masked. The trash register activity may be programmable enabled and disabled by a configuration parameter stored within a system configuration register.